

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is in response to the Final Office Action of August, 19 2009 and the Advisory Action of October 27, 2009 in the above-identified patent application. On October 19, 2009, the Applicant presented amendments in a response after the final Office Action. In the Advisory Action, the examiner noted that the proposed amendments would not be entered because, in part, they raise new issues. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 11 have been amended in this amendment and request for continued examination.

In the final Office Action, Claims 1, 4, 5/1, 6, 7, and 11-13 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S Patent No. 3,065,893 to *Basford*. In addition, Claims 2, 3, 5/2, and 5/3 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Basford* in view of CA Patent No. 1161385 to *McGinnis*. Further, Claims 8-10 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Basford* in view of CA Patent No. 1161385 to *McGinnis* and FR Patent No. 2425394 to *McGinnis*. It is respectfully submitted that *Basford* does not teach or suggest the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 11 and dependent claims 2 – 10 and 12 – 13 for the following reasons.

First, independent claims 1 and 11 have been amended to include a “drivable connection.” Claim 1 has been amended to read in relevant part “each of the rotatable members having a respective drivable connection with a motor.” Claim 11 has been amended to read in relevant part “using a motor connected to each of the rotatable members by a respective drivable connection to drive each of the rotatable members.”

In the current application, it is the driven rollers that impart the different speeds to the two portions of each of the traction members, one portion moving from the first/second roller to the

third/fourth roller, and the other portion moving back from the third/fourth roller to the first/second roller. Therefore, all the rollers are motor driven by means of “drivable connections” with the motor, this drive connection making it possible to maintain the difference between the first speed and the second speed.

In stark contrast, *Basford* discloses first (34) and third (28) rotatable members that are drive pulleys (Column 2, lines 12-15) and second (36) and fourth (30) rotatable members that are idler pulleys (Column 2, lines 12-15). Therefore, all four rotatable members are not each driven by a drivable connection with a motor but rather are addressed by a drive means through shafts, gearing, or belts. (see page 5 of Final Office Action).

In addition, Applicant still maintains all the points that it raised in the previous response, specifically that it is impossible for the idler rollers of *Basford* to maintain continuously a different speed to the driven rollers, because of the keying of each belt with corresponding recesses in the driven and idler rollers, even if such a difference in speed was momentarily possible, the difference would be imparted from the extrusion to the belt, not from the driven or idler rollers to the belt.

Accordingly, for at least the above discussed reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2 – 10, which include all of the features of independent claim 1, and independent claim 11 and dependent claims 12-13, which include all of the features of independent claim 11, are not anticipated or made obvious by the cited prior art references.

Applicants note that the RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is being submitted with its Request for Continued Examination Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/30EFS). It is believed that no other

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fees are due. However, if any fees are necessary, Applicant hereby authorizes the Director to charge any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1039.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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